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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany / USSR

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SUBJECT Construction of River Passenger Ships
in East Germany for the USSR

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1. On 18 July 1953, the TCHKALOV, 95 meters long, 14 meters beam, 2.2 meters molded depth and 1,300 displacement tons, was launched at the Mathias Thesen Werft (shipyard) in Wismar as the first river passenger ship for the USSR. She had three screw propellers, three 400-hp diesel engines, a crew of 70 and could accommodate 820 passengers. Her ice-doubled bow and a bow rudder were new technical features. This type of passenger vessel was intended for use on the Volga and Don Rivers. 25X1
2. On 25 July 1953, the BAIKAL, one of the river passenger ships for regular service on the Yenisei River, was launched at the Warnow-Werft (shipyard) in Warnemünde. She was 65.5 meters long, had a freeboard of 3.7 meters, a molded depth of 11.6 meters, a beam of 12.05 meters, a draft of 1.9 meters, and had an ice-doubled bow. She could accommodate 365 passengers in cabins. A total of 34 BAIKAL-type river passenger ships was scheduled to be built by the Warnow-Werft. The price for first BAIKAL-type ship was 5,820,000 eastmarks, which, however, beginning with the sixth ship, were expected to drop to 4,124,000 eastmarks per ship after the technical installations in the shipyard had been improved and section building had been adopted.
3. On 10 August 1953, the TURGENIEV, the first river passenger ship to be built by the State Shipyard in Rostov-on-Don, was launched. She could accommodate 150 passengers.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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